FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 022 *1 February 1985*

ARGENTINA

Alfonsin, British MP Discuss Falklands Talks B 1

BOLIVIA

COB Ready To Strike To Support Factory Workers C 1
ENTEL Workers Lift Indefinite Strike C 1
Briefs: New Cochabamba Daily; Industrial Production Down; C 1
1984 Oil Output; Argentine Gas Debt; Hoof-and-Mouth C 1
Disease Reported

BRAZIL

President-Elect Neves Pays Visit to Spain [cross-reference] D 1
Space Technology Accord With PRC Explained [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 29 Jan] D 1
Brazilian Republican Party Launched 31 Jan D 1

COLOMBIA

DANE Reports 1984 Growth, Inflation Statistics [EL SIGLO 22 Jan] F 1
Briefs: New Ambassador to U.S.; Court Appointments F 1

ECUADOR

Pope Encourages Change for Social Justice G 1
Briefs: Government, Occidental Sign Agreement G 1

MEXICO

FRG Official on EEC Aid to Contadora Group M 1
Secretary on Overcoming Drop in Oil Price M 1
Report on Three-Nation Fishing Agreements M 1

PANAMA

French Senators Support Contadora Efforts [MATUTINO 31 Jan] N 1
Briefs: Ambassador to Spain; Industrial Exports Increase N 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

Meeting in Panama on Urbina Lara Canceled P 1
Papal Mediation in Regional Conflicts Opposed P 1

BELIZE

British High Commissioner on Continued Aid P 2

COSTA RICA

'Small' Currency Devaluation Announced P 2
Recope Director Says PEMEX To Continue Work P 2

EL SALVADOR

Rey Prendes: Dialogue To Continue After Elections [EL MUNDO 30 Jan] P 3
Assembly President on Support for Duarte, Dialogue [EL MUNDO 29 Jan] P 4
Democratic Action Party Leader on Dialogue, Elections P 5
Joint Staff Reports Rebels Obstructing Traffic P 6

GUATEMALA

Attendance at Feb Contadora Meeting Confirmed [PRENSA LIBRE 30 Jan] P 7
Clash With Rebels, URNG January Report Noted [PRENSA LIBRE 31 Jan] P 7

HONDURAS

Nicaraguan Troops Attack Army Unit, Villages P 7
EL HERALDO Reports on McFarlane, Officials Meeting [28 Jan] P 8
Armed Forces' 'Clarification' [LA PRENSA 29 Jan] P 9
PNH Faction Holds Convention, Names Candidate P 9
Candidate's Address P 9
Conflict Unresolved P 11
Bar Association, Military Discuss Missing Persons P 11

NICARAGUA

Ortega Discusses Foreign, Economic Policy P 12
Condemns U.S. 'Arrogance' P 12
Hopes for Better FRG Ties [DPA] P 13
Explains 1985 Economic Plan P 14
U.S. 'Attempts' To Link Government to Drugs P 15
Msgr Vega Halts Plans To Travel to Cuba [AFP] P 15
Release of Radio Impacto Correspondent Ordered [San Jose Radio Impacto] P 16
Combined Misura-Misurasata Forces Attack Villages P 16
Brooklyn Rivera Opposes U.S. Aid to Contras P 16
ARDE Makes Urgent Appeal for International Aid [AFP] P 17
Briefs: Arrival of Soviet Rice P 17

CUBA

Radio Announces Malmierca Trip to Soviet Union Q 1
Brazilian Reception Honors Rodriquez Llompart Q 1
'Big Pine' Exercises Show Honduran Regime's 'Fear' Q 1
Work Safety Director Reports on 1984 Deaths Q 2
Camacho Aguilera Closes Havana Meeting on Economy Q 2
Investment Planned for Mining Sector Projects Q 2
Minister Forecasts 1985 Steelwork Production Q 3
R. Castro Praises Palma Soriano's Defense Work Q 3
66 Percent of Peasant Land Under Cooperatives Q 3

CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

Relations With Haiti To Be Strengthened S 1
Drug-Trafficking Inquiry Cost $2 Million S 1

JAMAICA

Seaga Seeks To Counter Press Reports on Unrest S 1

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

NDP, SVLP Will Contest Cato's Former Seat S 2

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Minister Says Groups Plan To Destroy Democracy S 2
Caricom Food, Produce Imports Exempt From Duty S 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

24-Hour Strike Held; Bosch Calls on Jorge To Resign V 1

PERU

Striking Mineworkers Demand Salary Increases V 1

ALFONSIN, BRITISH MP DISCUSS FALKLANDS TALKS

PY311938 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1352 GMT 31 Jan 84

[By NA special correspondent]

[Text] Athens, 31 Jan (NA) -- Senator Antonio Berhongaray, a member of the presidential entourage, reported that British Conservative Party parliamentarian Keith Best has proposed to President Raul Alfonsin during a meeting, which the British MP requested, the "resumption of talks" on the Malvinas Islands issue. The British MP, who is a member of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's party, made this proposal this morning during an impromptu meeting he held with Alfonsin within the framework of the meeting on disarmament that is being held here. Best's proposal was revealed by Senator Berhongaray at the end of the meeting on disarmament that was held in the Zappion Palace in Athens.

Berhongaray and Roberto Garcia Moritan, the Argentine permanent delegate to Geneva, later held a meeting with Best, who stated that Argentina must declare "the formal cessation of hostilities" as a preliminary step to any formal talks seeking to negotiate the Malvinas problem. During the meeting with Alfonsin, Best stated that the British Government is "interested in resuming talks on the Malvinas," and added that "the resumption of the dialogue is important" for both countries.

According to Berhongaray, the meeting between Alfonsin and Best took place when they were leaving the place where the meeting on disarmament was held and in which the presidents of four countries of the "Group of Six" participated, in addition to 52 representatives of nongovernment organizations interested in disarmament. Berhongaray stated that the meeting with Best took place when Alfonsin was walking through a corridor toward the exit. At that moment, the British MP approached him and told the president that he wished to talk about the Malvinas Islands. Best told him that he believed it important to resume the talks between the two countries, and Alfonsin replied that "Argentina is always interested in talking about the sovereignty of the islands."

Alfonsin immediately asked Berhongaray and Garcia Moritan to meet with Best. Berhongaray said that the meeting with the British MP lasted 15 minutes and took place in a room at the Zappion Palace. Berhongaray said that during the meeting Best first pointed to the need for Argentina to "declare the cessation of hostilities" as a preliminary step to the resumption of formal talks on the Malvinas between the two countries. Berhongaray stressed that Best demanded as a "priority" the cessation of hostilities. During the meeting Best, who at no time made it clear whether he was speaking for his government, reiterated the importance of resuming the dialogue on the islands situation for both Argentina and the United Kingdom. Berhongaray said that progress was made during the meeting as to the possibility of resuming the talks based on the creation of a system of permanent consultations, which would in turn be based on an "open agenda," thus preventing the start of talks on specific issues. Best's unexpected desire to meet President Alfonsin at the moment he was leaving the palace after the disarmament talks caused a crowd of journalists and government officials to form in the corridor. Berhongaray said that while Alfonsin and Best exchanged those few words, all the other delegates patiently waited for the corridor to be cleared so they could exit. Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere was among those present at the unexpected meeting between the British MP and the Argentine president.

COB READY TO STRIKE TO SUPPORT FACTORY WORKERS

PY311415 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] has announced that it is ready to strike. This decision was made yesterday during the national COB meeting held at the headquarters of the National Teachers Union. The COB decision was made in support of the factory workers who are demanding that an arbitration decision supporting their claims be obeyed. The COB said that if the factory workers' demands are not met, the COB will order an indefinite, general strike.

ENTEL WORKERS LIFT INDEFINITE STRIKE

PY311355 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The workers of the National Telecommunications Enterprise [ENTEL] have lifted the indefinite strike which has caused a lot of inconvenience to the population. (Fausto Ardaya), a union member, last night reported this to a Radio Panamericana reporter. (Ardaya) said that during an assembly a decision was made to lift the indefinite strike after four government decrees were received. The population has labeled the strike as arbitrary.

[Begin recording] After holding a national assembly here in La Paz, and after having received four decrees complying with our requests submitted to the government to purchase a computer center and to allocate foreign currency to purchase spare parts for ENTEL equipment, the ENTEL workers decided to lift the strike begun at 1300 on 28 January. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW COCHABAMBA DAILY -- OPINION, a daily newspaper edited in Cochabamba, published its first issue on 13 January. The staff is made up of the following: Edwin Tapia Fontanillas, director; Federico Sabat Lara, assistant director; Oscar Terrazas Ayala, editor in chief; and Alfonso Rojas Moncayo, financial manager. [Excerpts] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Jan 85 p 3 PY]

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DOWN -- According to an official report issued by the Bolivian Central Bank, industrial production in Bolivia declined by 15 percent over the first half of 1984 compared to that of 1983. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Jan 85 p 1 PY]

1984 OIL OUTPUT -- According to statistical data supplied by Bolivian Government Oil Deposits, crude and condensed oil output in 1984 reached 7,6000,558 barrels, a 499,240-barrel drop compared to that of 1983. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 12 Jan 85 p 1 PY]

ARGENTINE GAS DEBT -- Bolivian Government Oil Deposits has reported that the Argentine State Gas Enterprise owes $202,414,343 for the sale of natural gas invoiced up to 31 December 1984. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 6 Jan 85 p 13 PY]

HOOF-AND-MOUTH DISEASE REPORTED -- Sucre, 16 Jan (PRESENCIA) -- The cattlemen of Hernando Siles and Luis Calvo Provinces, Chuquisaca Department, have reported that they have failed to supply meat to the La Paz market because the cattle in Hernando Siles and Luis Calvo Provinces are afflicted with hoof-and-mouth disease. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 17 Jan 85 p 7 PY]

DANE REPORTS 1984 GROWTH, INFLATION STATISTICS

PA310004 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Jan 85 p 4

[By Luis Fernando Ramirez H.]

[Text] Figures reflecting the behavior of Colombia's economy during the past 2 months have begun to surface following the end of the year.

The National Administrative Department of Statistics [DANE] has reported that the economy grew at a rate of 3 percent in 1984, well above expectations. The inflation rate was 18.28 percent, 1.64 percent higher than in 1983; and the main problem, unemployment, was 13.4 percent.

These three indicators provide an overview of economic development during 1984. The favorable growth rate was fundamentally due to a reactivation of industry resulting from protective measures that were adopted, as well as curbs on imports and smuggling. Inflation grew because of increases in consumer prices, triggered by increases in fuel prices and transportation fares.

Unemployment is expected to drop in 1985 as a result of increased demand for goods and services abroad and the government's aggressive campaign to increase exports. It would be worthwhile, however, to briefly review the behavior of leading sectors of our economy in comparision with 1983.

Agriculture grew at a moderate rate of 3 percent, but prospects for this year are good. The cattle industry grew by 2.8 percent, even though it was plagued by many difficulties caused by the extended rainy season, increased production costs, and a lack of incentives for investors. The coffee sector's prospects were encouraging, as prices were good and the export picture was stable. The manufacturing industry grew by 6 percent, reflecting a sound growth. Commerce grew by 2.5 percent and exports by 7 percent. The mining industries rate of 14 percent was the highest in the economy.

Only the construction industry and imports recorded a decline. This means that despite difficulties, 1984 was not a bad year for the economy, as some sectors are reflecting satisfactory behavior.

Our attention should focus on two problems in 1985: unemployment and the fiscal deficit. Once these are controlled, we can face the future with real optimism, as the economic upturn in the United States and the international economic recovery are generating a larger demand for our export products. If we add to this the prospects of our becoming a substantial exporter of energy products, we have a future that many Latin American countries would envy.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO U.S. -- The new Colombian ambassador to the United States, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, has presented his letter of credentials to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. [Summary] [Bogoto EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jan 85 p 6 A PA]

COURT APPOINTMENTS -- The Supreme Court has elected Liberals Alfonso Reyes Echandia and Fernando Uribe Restrepo as its new president and vice president, respectively. Former magistrate Jose Maria Esguerra Samper was elected to the Electoral Court. [Summary] [Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 25 Jan 85 PA]

PRESIDENT-ELECT NEVES PAYS VISIT TO SPAIN

For Madrid coverage of the visit to Spain by President-elect Tancredo Neves, see the Spain section of the 31 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY ACCORD WITH PRC EXPLAINED

PY312218 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Jan 85 p 2

[Text] Brigadier Waldir Vasconcellos, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff and president of the Brazilian Space Activity Commission (COBAE), yesterday announced in Rio de Janeiro that this year Brazil will begin a space technology cooperation program with the PRC. According to Brig Vasconcellos, who was in Beijing recently, the prospects are good that the cooperation with the PRC will fulfill Brazil's main objective of acquiring sophisticated space technology in the area of staellites.

The president of the Airspace Technical Center (CTA), Brigadier Hugo de Oliveira Piva, accompanied Brig Vasconcellos on his trip to the PRC. The CTA should be the greatest beneficiary of the cooperation with the PRC because high-level PRC specialists will come to Brazil under the exchange program. The CTA is responsible for the Sonda IV rocket project, which constitutes the penultimate stage of the complete space mission, whose objective is to launch a Brazilian-made communications satellite from the Alcantara launching center, Maranhao State, in 1989.

The Aeronautics Ministry and COBAE have already started to set up the new space launching center in Alcantara. Brig Piva has asserted that the complete space mission is guaranteed from the technological standpoint, but to keep to the timetable, the federal government will have to provide financial resources.

The goal of the complete space mission is to launch Brazilian scientific satellites by early 1990. These satellites will provide the country with more accurate advance weather forecasts that will be especially beneficial for agricultural activities.

BRAZILIAN REPUBLICAN PARTY LAUNCHED 31 JAN

PY311345 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpts] At 1100 this morning, during the plenary meeting of the Legislative Assembly here in Sao Paulo, the new Brazilian Republican Party [Partido Republicano Brasileiro -- PRB] will be officially launched as a national party.

The PRB has a basic 41-point program for continued political action which proposes governmetn decentralization, the strengthening of the National Congress, representative democracy, respect for human rights, and an open economy.

The party's code of ethics points out the need to grant equal opportunities, to respect the Republic, the need for well-being, and respect for the people's sovereignty.

POPE ENCOURAGES CHANGE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

PA311630 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] John Paul II Proclaimed the need for structural changes in order to construct a more just society and he urged people to strive to overcome the injustice that widens the gap between rich and poor. This position, which emerges from the church's social doctrine, was upheld and repeated by John Paul II in almost all of his speeches during his visit to Quito. He also criticized the arms race, violence, and the trampling of dignity and human rights. Within this framework, he asked young people and workers in particular to militate as Christians and to make a commitment to change and build a new society in accordance with God's will.

Throughout his trip to Ecuador, John Paul II said that one of the major reasons for his visit was to encourage and promote through the Gospel, all desires and aspirations to promote greater social justice, more respect for the dignity and rights of human beings, and a more determined will on the part of all to serve, help, and love in order to enrich the spirit and promote the people.

At San Francisco Plaza, John Paul II said that no efficacious solution can be found without simultaneously resolving other matters that depend on the international economic order. It pains me above all that it is precisely the poorest, the ones with the least resources, who must most gravely bear the negative consequences of this economic crisis. We must strive, the pope said, to gradually eliminate the intolerable chasm separating those who possess excessive wealth and those who even live in destitution, doing everything that is possible and even that which is impossible so that this chasm will not increase but instead gradually decrease, making way for greater social equality. One derives dignity from work, is fulfilled as an individual; work also brings unity with others. Much of this work is also a service to others, to the city or town where you live, to the entire nation. Do your work, then, convinced of your dignity, with the desire to improve your situation and that of your family, with a spirit of service and solidarity and undertaking it with a sense of duty and seriousness. Any social order desiring to serve man, he added, must value the work of its citizens in this manner, making it the basis of its laws, institutions, and productive life, always avoiding the possibility of turning this work into mere merchandise, an object for sale or purchase in the market, as in so often the case in today's society, which is influenced by various ideologies.

However, John Paul II also called for the solidarity of workers, which he described as essential in finding a suitable course within the labor and professional organizations, when they truly represent the workers' legitimate interests and aspirations rather than political forces unknown to workers.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT, OCCIDENTAL SIGN AGREEMENT -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero today signed a contract for oil exploration and exploitation between Ecuador and the Occidental Petroleum Corp., a U.S. oil company [Summary] [Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jan 85 PA]

FRG OFFICIAL ON EEC AID TO CONTADORA GROUP

FL311722 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0257 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- FRG Minister of State in the Foreign Ministry Juergen W.Moellemann announced here today that the EEC will try to help the Contadora Group. In an interview upon arriving in Mexico on a 5-hour visit, the West German official said efforts are being made to hold a meeting in Brussels or Luxembourg during the latter part of the year to which all Central American countries will be invited to resolve their difficulties through dialogue.

Referring to the New Delhi disarmament meeting, he stressed his government's support of all efforts being conducted by some countries to limit the arms race. He added that his country welcomes the resumption of negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union because it represents a possibility of peace for humankind.

SECRETARY ON OVERCOMING DROP IN OIL PRICE

FL312102 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1520 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican secretary of finance and public credit has stated that Mexico will overcome the drop in the price of crude with its foreign exchange reserves, its healthy current accounts position, and its healthy trade balance. The secretary said some adjustments will have to be made in the economic reorganization program, which cannot be considered a catastrophe because the nation has resources to face the situation.

He stressed that the greatest price reductions correspond to light crude, which is the highest quality, and for months Mexico has developed its technology and selected its clients to vary the ratio between oil extraction and sales, and because of this the nation will not be as affected as other nations that produce mainly light crude. The secretary said other industries that use hydrocarbons are making changes in their systems to permit the use of more heavy crude, which is cheaper.

REPORT ON THREE-NATION FISHING AGREEMENTS

FL311922 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0036 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Fishing Secretariat has announced that Mexico has signed fishing agreements with Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador, and has persuaded these nations to join the Latin American Organization for the Development of Fishing. Fishing Secretary Pedro Ojeda Paullada pointed out that this was arranged during a recent tour of these Latin American nations. He said the agreements deal with research on fishing potential, exchanges of fishing technology, and greater exploitation of marine resources.

He stated that as an immediate measure, Colombian and Mexican technicians would tour the coasts of Colombia aboard a ship belonging to the Mexican Fish Products Company to learn about the fishing capacity on Colombia's exclusive economic zone. He added that in the case of Peru, courses would be offered on making prepared products from raw materials. An agreement was also signed for the exchange of technical personnel and information on fishing research. Ojeda Paullada said Peru's fishing resources would be increased with the help of Mexican technology, while Peruvian technicians would provide information on shrimp farming.

FRENCH SENATORS SUPPORT CONTADORA EFFORTS

PA312340 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 31 Jan 85 p 2 A

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] Jean Francois Pintat, head of a delegation of seven French senators who specialize in Latin American affairs, told MATUTINO yesterday that the role Panama has been playing in the peacemaking process is appreciated by all the other countries in the Central American area.

Pintat and his French colleagues arrived in Panama on Tuesday night on the last stop of their tour of all Central American countries. The tour's objective was to familiarize the delegation with the conflict-ridden situation in Central America.

The senator said that France and the French people reject solutions by force and support negotiated solutions. For this reason they support the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group, composed of Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela. Pintat added that during his talks with regional leaders, all reiterated their countries' support for the Contadora Group's efforts.

Pintat also expressed the desire of France to strengthen its relations with Latin America, particularly with Panama, with whom France has had ties since late in the 19th century.

The French senator stressed his interest in creating a Central American economic community and added that IT IS A FINE IDEA [capitalized passage published in boldface] and that if it is firmly supported, it will help political and economic relations in the area.

Besides Pintat, the French delegation includes Michel Miroundot, Charles Bonifray, (Charles de Buttoly), Pierre Jeambrun, Pierre Vallon, and Auguste Chupin.

Yesterday the French senators were received by Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta and the officers of the National Legislative Assembly.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN -- Carlos Ozores Typaldos was sworn in as ambassador to Spain in a ceremony held on 22 January. [Summary] [Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 8 PA]

INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS INCREASE -- Panama exported 11.5 percent more industrial products in 1984 than in 1983. This figure amounted to 71.6 million balboas. This information was supplied by the Trade Union of Panamanian Industrialists. It must be noted that sugar, an important export for many years, dropped dramatically in 1984 by 11 million balboas, that is 29.2 percent. In general terms, exports increased in almost all industrial activities. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 15 Jan 85 p 1 A PA]

MEETING IN PANAMA ON URBINA LARA CANCELED

FL311956 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] San Jose, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Secretariat has announced here that negotiations between Mexican Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ricardo Valero and his Panamanian colleague Jose Maria Cabrera to resolve the Urbina Lara case, which should have continued today in Panama City, have been unexpectedly canceled.

Today, there was to have been a meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group countries, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua, and the ambassadors of Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Panama, who make up the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan Supervision and Prevention Commission.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said the meeting was postponed but not canceled, due to details that were not made clear, such as the manner in which the negotiations would be carried out. He added that perhaps there had been too much optimism in scheduling the meeting. The meeting is still very much at loose ends.

The meeting in Panama was the culmination of efforts by the deputy foreign ministers of Mexico and Panama to try to resolve the case of Jose Urbina Lara, who was arrested by Sandinist authorities on 24 December after he had taken asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy. Through diplomatic sources, the Contadora Group made known that the purpose of the meeting is to free Urbina Lara, which the Nicaraguan Government has so far refused to do.

PAPAL MEDIATION IN REGIONAL CONFLICT OPPOSED

PA310429 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0354 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Bonn, 30 Jan (EFE) -- Pope John Paul II's mediation in the Central American conflict "lacks perspective and would not favor Nicaragua," Msgr Jose Arias Caldera, of Managua, said in Bonn today. Arias Caldera noted: "The pope was hostile to a people who love him during his visit to Nicaragua. He has shown his opposition to the revolutionary people."

At a press conference organized by the Committee of Anti-Imperialist Solidarity for Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the Nicaraguan prelate said that the United States will only halt its aggression against Nicaragua if the revolution changes its course.

Meanwhile, Mario Lopez, member of the FDR-FMLN Executive Committee of El Salvador, pointed out: "If Venezuela should ask the pope to mediate, as has been rumored, this would imply that it was giving up its functions and initiatives in the Contadora Group." He added: "It would be dangerous for Contadora to declare itself incompetent" after having taken on responsibility for the Central American problem.

Likewise, Nicaraguan newswoman Maritza Cordero, spokesman for the Nicaraguan supreme tribunal, affirmed that "the pope's mediation would be totally partial, since the pope has already made clear whose side he is on." She added: "The Catholic Church pastoral leaders, who have the pope's unconditional backing, have supported the Nicaraguan counterrevolution."

Panamanian Nataniel Hill Arboleda, secretary in charge of Latin America at the WPC in Helsinki, said: "As a citizen of one of the Contadora Group countries, I reject papal mediation."

He added: "Contadora will not mediate in the conflict, which is what the pope would do. Instead, it will carry out patient negotiations" with the countries in the region. "No one can accuse the Contadora Group governments of taking a partial position in the negotiations," Hill Arboleda said. According to him: "Any initiative outside of this would be aimed at undermining Contadora."

In conclusion, the four participants in the conference said: "We want to point out the danger of this conflict to governments and peoples, and the need to achieve political solutions in the region."

BELIZE

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER ON CONTINUED AID

FL311614 Belize City Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The British High Commissioner to Belize Mr John Michael Crosby, speaking to the Belize City Rotary Club yesterday, announced that Britain had agreed to provide an additional 1-million Belize dollars this financial year for the rehabilitation of mile 0 to 15 of the Western Highway. This will enable to the project, managed by the crown agents, to be speeded up during the current dry season. Mr Crosby reviewed Britain's existing aid program in Belize which is running at 10 million Belize dollars a year and has covered not only roads but agriculture, airport facilities, police training, water supply, lighthouses and navigation, communications, health and social services.

The high commissioner said that Belize's Foreign Minister Mr Dean Barrow had received assurances during his current visit to the United Kingdom of continued British aid after the disbursement of the 12-million Belize dollars committed at the time of Belize's independence.

COSTA RICA

'SMALL' CURRENCY DEVALUATION ANNOUNCED

PA010037 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Today the Costa Rican Central Bank announced the first small currency devaluation for this year. The new dollar value with respect to the national currency has been raised by 45 centimes as of today. This means that the banks are buying dollars at 47.95 colones per dollar and selling dollars at 48.45 colones per dollar. According to bank spokesmen, this decision is due to the government's policy of effecting small devaluations in accordance with national and foreign economic indicators.

RECOPE DIRECTOR SAYS PEMEX TO CONTINUE WORK

FL311746 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpts] San Jose, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Executive director of the Costa Rica Oil Refinery (Recope) Roberto Dobles has said that the Mexican Petroleum enterprise (PEMEX) will continue its exploration work and petroleum evaluation in Costa Rica. In an interview with NOTIMEX, the Recope representative said that after meeting with PEMEX Director Mario Ramon Beteta and other PEMEX officials last weekend, it was agreed to continue the evaluation work, which was suspended in November.

Dobles emphatically denied statements that Recope had threatened to confiscate equipment PEMEX has in Talmanca, in the south-Atlantic coast area of the country, valued at some $15 million after Mexican technicians working in the region were withdrawn.

Dobles said that during talks with his Mexican counterpart, PEMEX had been asked to conduct the evaluation work 2 years after drilling the San Jose One well, which reaches a depth of 4,300 meters, although a depth of 6,000 meters had been calculated.

On the possibility of continuing joint exploration projects, especially in drilling a second well, Dobles said that everything depended on the evaluation being conducted at this time but that there was not much hope of this work producing positive results.

On Recope's enormous debt with Mexico, for the explorations and tankers which have not been paid for, Dobles said that Costa Rica is experiencing a problematic lack of foreign exchange; it has the necessary amount of colones (the national currency), but not the dollars. He calculated Costa Rica's expenditures in petroleum drilling to be some $6 million and said that PEMEX had invested nearly $25 million, which is considerably higher than the original budget of $10 million.

On the freeze of shipments of Mexican crude to Costa Rica, Dobles said that PEMEX is only owed one shipment worth $6.5 million and it is hoped that this will be paid in the next few days. He said the suspension of shipments is automatic according to Clause 5 of the San Jose Accord where 30 days is granted for shipment payments. Mexico stopped sending petroleum after two shipments worth $13 million were not paid for.

Dobles was optimistic that the misunderstandings between PEMEX and Recope had been cleared up during his recent visit and said that to avoid any difficulties in relations, trips between the two countries would be made to move formalities along and continue the work.

EL SALVADOR

REY PRENDES: DIALOGUE TO CONTINUE AFTER ELECTIONS

PA010004 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 30 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Presidency Minister Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes said today that the dialogue will definitely continue after the elections. The government and many sectors feel that it would be inadvisable to continue the dialogue at this time.

The official explained that it is not that there is fear of the right wing's attacks against this means to achieve peace, but that more popular support is indeed required to continue the dialogue. "We are not talking about a Christian Democratic Party [PDC] majority in the next Assembly, but about more democratic support," the presidency minister said. Rey Prendes referred to the fact that Ignacio Bella Curia, during an event in which he participated in the FRG, said that it is inadvisable to continue the dialogue at this time and that the PDC needs to strengthen its position within the government. Rey Prendes added that previously it was taboo to talk about dialogue with the rebels; however, now the people and many sectors have lost this fear and understand that it is an avenue to finding a solution to the crisis in El Salvador.

In his statements today, Rey Prendes described the Legislative Assembly's decision to reduce the executive branch's budget as "a hostile attitude toward the president in order to prevent him from governing."

"They have left the employees of the Secretariat of Information without a Christmas bonus; forced a reduction in the president's security personnel, which would not happen anywhere else in the world; and deprived the presidency of funds for vital services such as water, electricity, telephones, and so on. Employees will have trouble working; they will have jobs but no stationery; there will be no money for overtime or many other things normally required by an administration. I don't know what their aims are."

Regarding helicopters for the Armed Forces which a diplomatic source said are about to arrive, the presidency minister said that details on this will be supplied in due time, but this does not effect the government's attitude toward seeking ways to achieve peace. While the government is entitled to obtain this equipment under the concept of national security, this does not mean the government is against humanizing the war. "Really, any talk about humanizing a war is preposterous because every war is inhuman. However, these concepts have been applied to other steps being taken, such as releasing prisoners, caring for refugees, and so on," Rey Prendes said.

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ON SUPPORT FOR DUARTE, DIALOGUE

PA312317 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 29 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] "I sincerely hope that the widely rumored coup d'etat will not occur because I want El Salvador to be among the civilized nations living under a full democracy," Maria Julia Castillo Rodas [president of the Legislative Assembly] told FRG Minister of State in the Foreign Ministry Juergen Moellemann in an official communique.

Castillo Rodas referred to the rumors of a possible coup d'etat in the country due to the tense relations between the government branches, and added: "We have carried out a great effort to implement a democratization process and recently we approved a new Constitution. A coup would only throw all these efforts down the drain."

"There may appear to be tension between government branches, but the legislators are firmly determined to back the most important national issues that will benefit the Salvadoran people."

"President Duarte will have the staunch support of the Legislative Assembly in all of those legal actions that will positively benefit the people. Logically, in some cases we will have different viewpoints. However, if we sit down and talk and he can convince us, he will have our support."

Moellemann asked Castillo Rodas to express her opinion as president of the National Assembly on the dialogue with the guerrillas initiated by the government. Castillo Rodas replied that the dialogue was President Duarte's personal initiative and that when he announced the talks he stressed that the Constitution would be his point of reference. Castillo Rodas added that if the talks are held within the framework of the Constitution, the president will have the Assembly's support. Castillo Rodas added: "We have already promulgated an amnesty law and we would gladly approve a similar law if it can help to achieve the peace with dignity and honor that all Salvadorans desire. However, we want the dialogue to be sincere and solid in order to bring peace to the country."

On the subject of human rights, Castillo Rodas told the FRG minister of state that "the situation in El Salvador has been magnified abroad because even though we are going through a conflictive situation and there have been human rights violations, there has been improvement in this respect."

"The Supreme Court of Justice has been strengthened in order to improve the administration of justice and to guarantee respect for human rights," Castillo Rodas said, adding that "the government is trying hard to improve this situation and there has been much progress."

"Human rights are a worldwide problem and we are no exception. However, we are determined to guarantee their respect despite the current conflictive situation in the country," Castillo Rodas concluded.

DEMOCRATIC ACTION PARTY LEADER ON DIALOGUE, ELECTIONS

PA310449 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Interview with Dr Rene Fortin Magana, candidate for first deputy of the Democratic Action Party in El Salvador Department, by Rolando Perez, date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Perez] Dr Magana, what is your personal and your party's opinion on the suspension of talks between the government and guerrillas?

[Fortin Magana] I think two factors have caused the suspension of the dialogue with the rebels. First, we have already begun the electoral campaign. All political parties -- including the Christian Democratic Party, the majority party now in power -- have entered the electoral campaign fully. This undoubtedly has caused an interruption in the dialogue with the rebels. Yet, there seems to be a more important factor. After Ayagualo, the guerrillas left the impression on the people that they are using the dialogue as a strategic tool. The guerrillas' flat, negative answer to the president's proposals left a bad impression on all Salvadorans. For this reason I believe that, if the dialogue is to be resumed, the guerrilla representatives will have to demonstrate that they are not interested in turning it into a mere strategic move but that they are really interested in trying to solve the country's problems and achieve peace through this procedure. The Salvadoran people's position has been to reject the guerrillas' stance due to their answer in Ayagualo.

[Perez] According to recent statements by the FDR's Ruben Zamora, President Durate is being pressured by Army and economic sectors not to resume the dialogue. What is your opinion on this?

[Fortin Magana] As far as I know, the Armed Forces have not been pressuring the government, although some economic sectors may have done so. We all know there are some political parties that oppose the dialogue. Even so, I don't think they go as far as preventing the president from taking any action in this direction. The president himself is doing his own analysis, perhaps pondering what I have just mentioned: namely, whether the guerrillas are sincere about a dialogue or if they have been using it as a strategic move. Still, I believe the president holds the power of decision and that, should some pressure exist, it is not strong enough to make him change his mind. I repeat, it's the president's decision.

[Perez] The church has said that any poll in the country would show that 80 percent of the Salvadoran people support the dialogue. Again, what is your opinion on this?

[Fortin Magana] I have no information on this poll you say the church has made. But, taking for granted that the poll exists, I think that the answer is right. Everyone wants peace and would agree with a sincere dialogue to attain peace. But when people see that the dialogue is being used as a strategic or tactical mechanism, things change a little. Again, should there be the conviction that both the government and the guerrillas are seeking an opportunity to hold a sincere dialogue and express their viewpoints, then the results of this poll would reflect the general feelings of the Salvadoran people. But we need that demonstration of sincere purpose and we need to know that we are not being used by the guerrillas.

[Perez] My question was rather whether a poll would demonstrate that 80 percent of Salvadorans support the dialogue. You answered in the reverse order. Now, changing the subject, what is your opinion on the electoral climate? Are there guarantees on participation in the process?

[Fortin Magana] Well, the outlook is a little bleak because of all that meddling with the electoral law. A great deal of uncertainty prevails at present because of the question of votes. I will not discuss it now because I have mentioned it at other times. But voters have shown a little indifference, may I say, and some weariness because of the rounds that have already been fought. We will now be participating in our fourth election. The people appear to be a little exhausted because of this electoral process and they fail to see a clear horizon ahead. I believe, however, that we politicians are here for precisely that: to make the Salvadoran people see that, although this means great sacrifice for all of us, we have to do it because this is the only solution to our problems.

Finally, the postponement of the election date until, for instance, Palm Sunday, is a [word indistinct]. This means that the entire Holy Week will be spent in vote counting and other related activities. This will not facilitate the elections. I feel that the government should make it very easy for people to cast their votes. It is a right and a duty to vote. But all things should be made easier, just as we have done regarding taxes, so that as many Salvadorans as possible will cast their votes.

For this reason, I said things are a little gloomy, but, as I have said, we should tell the people that it is necessary to go and vote again this time as we did in the past. After these elections, we will enjoy a little rest of about 3 years without elections. This will be the last election during this term, according to the Constitution. I urge all Salvadorans to exercise this sacred right.

JOINT STAFF REPORTS REBELS OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC

PA310236 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 85

[By Osiris Ramirez]

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces have reported that rebels have burned a bus, punctured the tires of four vehicles, and set up obstacles for vehicles at various locations.

A communique released by the Armed Forces Joint Staff said that free movement on roads leading to villages in the country's interior has become dangerous for the honest citizen who must travel to do business or go to work. This situation has been created by terrorists, who stepped up their criminal actions over the weekend. Terrorists not only take money and personal property away from travelers, they also burn vehicles and puncture tires, thus causing serious harm to the people and businessmen who are trying to serve the community.

The communique added that specific information is available that proves the terrorists' criminal actions, such as the burning of a bus of the Tropicana enterprises and a truck on the Sonsonate-Santa Ana road. In addition, the rebels punctured the tires of four vehicles and hindered road traffic near the San Jose Llano Grande canton in Tecoluca jurisdiction, and burned a bus near (El Parital) in El Transito jurisdiction, and machine-gunned a bus near the (Cangilon) turnoff in San Juan Nonualco jurisdiction, killing one person and wounding several others.

The communique also said that the people condemn these actions because they constitute an attack on human rights. The Armed Forces are bent on preventing these terrorist actions that the people are increasingly rejecting.

GUATEMALA

ATTENDANCE AT FEB CONTADORA MEETING CONFIRMED

PA310332 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 30 Jan 85 p 2

[Text] Guatemala has confirmed its attendance at the next meeting of plenipotentiaries, who will represent the governments of the region. This meeting was called by the Contadora Group for 14 and 15 February, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran said yesterday. Andrade Diaz-Duran said the experts will meet to try to find some solutions to the recent incidents between Nicaragua and Costa Rica and also to make preparations for a foreign ministers meeting, during which talks on a permanent peace in the region will continue. Andrade Diaz-Duran said that former Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima will represent Guatemala at the experts meeting. According to Andrade Diaz-Duran, the Central American governments will have the opportunity to present their views at the experts meeting in Panama City, where talks will be held as the only means for a peaceful solution.

CLASH WITH REBELS, URNG JANUARY REPORT NOTED

PA010036 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 31 Jan 85 p 2

[Text] Five soldiers were killed in a clash with rebels in northern Huehuetenango Department near the Mexican border on Tuesday, the Army Public Relations Office reported.

Concerning a press report that a guerrilla "courier" was captured, the military office reported that Francisco Anibal Jirafa was captured in Samayac municipality, Suchitepequez Department, as he attempted to sell eight 30-mm cartridges.

A telex from the URNG received at our offices reports that "a total of 31 political and military actions which inflicted 87 casualties on the Guatemalan Army were conducted during the first 25 days of January by organizations of the URNG."

HONDURAS

NICARAGUAN TROOPS ATTACK ARMY UNIT, VILLAGES

PA312329 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2256 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 31 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Armed Forces today confirmed an armed clash with forces of the Sandinist Army of Nicaragua.

According to the Honduran Army, Sandinist troops yesterday attacked a Honduran detachment in the Palo Verde sector of Choluteca Department, which borders Nicaragua. The confrontation lasted approximately 25 minutes and, according to Honduran soldiers, local troops suffered no casualties while apparently one Sandinist soldier was killed and another wounded in the clash.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the Sandinist Army opened fire with heavy artillery on the Honduran villages of Cacautira and Las Minas in Concepcion de Maria and Cinco Pinos, Choluteca Department.

The Honduran Army stated that there were no casualties from the Sandinist bombardment, but it did cause a great deal of property damage.

The Honduran Armed Forces said they have asked the Foreign Secretariat to file a formal protest with the Managua government and international organizations over the Sandinist attacks on Honduran sovereign territory.

EL HERALDO REPORTS ON McFARLANE, OFFICIALS MEETING

PA010252 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 28 Jan 85 pp 4, 37

["Political Scene" column; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Excerpts] Everyone was caught "with his pants down" by the meeting between Robert McFarlane, national security adviser, and members of our country's Security Council. Even more surprise was caused by the drama that is slowly unfolding on the Liberal government's stage. The meeting has a "heated" ending. The officials were perplexed by the violent end of the meeting and McFarlane's ill-timed withdrawal. There were too many place settings for dinner....

Honduran sources said that when one of General Lopez Reyes' expressions was translated for McFarlane, he was unable to conceal his displeasure. He mumbled a harsh word and hastened the meeting's conclusion.

It is said that the U.S. official does not have the traits of a career diplomat, much less the penetrating intelligence of a man such as the U.S. secretary of state. Inadequate Reagan envoys....

In response to the position taken by President Reagan's national security adviser, the Honduran president and Armed Forces commander in chief made it clear that they would not accept pressures of any type, that they would not sign any bilateral national security pact, and that they could not possibly accept any "blackmail" that would allow more than 10,000 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries to permanently reside in our territory supported by the United States. One of the regime's highest-ranking most important officials even spoke of resigning, which would present serious consequences both nationally and internationally....

With his singular diplomatic touch, and as soon as McFarlane and Paul Gorman, chief of the U.S. Army Southern Command stationed in Panama, left the country, Paz Barnica met with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera to explain to him the advantages of the amnesty law proposed by the Nicaraguan Government to the counter-revolutionaries operating in Honduras and Costa Rica as was reported in an AFP dispatch datelined Washington on 23 January. The Honduran foreign secretary praised the amnesty law issued by the Nicaraguan communist regime....

Putting aside the official reports on a last-minute plan to "create jobs and alleviate the national economic crisis," the U.S. Government, through its AID office in Honduras, reported its decision to freeze $147.5 million from a new financing project for Honduras as long as the Liberal government does not present a stabilizing program for this country's economy. We think that there is a reason for the U.S. Government's attitude. We must recall that this year is essentially political, and that those funds left in the hands and to the whims of politicians would never help to resolve Honduras' true economic problem; it would be like throwing salt into the sea.

So that our readers will have a correct impression of what goes on at the top levels of governments friendly to us, here is what John Dimitri Negroponte said in Potrerilla. HE SAID THAT HONDURAS HAS KEPT ITSELF ALIVE AND SUSTAINED ITSELF ON A BASIS OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL INDEBTEDNESS. One of Honduras' loyal friends also said that "adaptation to this system of survival based upon credit was originated by THE ABSENCE OF INVESTMENT BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN ADDITION TO INCREASED VITAL IMPORTS IN THE PAST DECADE while the prices of most of Honduras' exports have dropped."

Negroponte also said that foreign economic assistance cannot be a substitute for trade and investment -- words of wisdom for those who, desperately fleeing from this Liberal government after so many years of the most erratic public administration, have returned by the path of foreign indebtedness as the only solution to Honduras' problems. All in all, everything is turning out as it did in the past military regimes....

We will leave as homework for the Honduran people an investigation on how high Honduras' foreign debt has risen. This applies to the international debt as well. There will be time emough to prove that all continues to be the same in matters of indebtedness. In the transition from a de facto regime to a constitutional regime, the responsibility will fall to others.

Armed Forces' 'Clarification'

PA010256 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Jan 85 p 4

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The Armed Forces public relations office wishes to make the following clarification on the information published on 28 January by EL HERALDO of Tegucigalpa, in its "Political Scene" column, dealing with the recent visit to Honduras by Mr Robert McFarlane, national security adviser to U.S. President Reagan:

1. The visit by adviser McFarlane to Honduras was intended to inform the Honduran authorities about the U.S. Government's cooperation projects to be carried out during President Reagan's second term.

2. The talks between adviser McFarlane and members of the Honduran National Security Council were frank, friendly, and held in a climate of mutual respect.

3. Although the talks included general bilateral matters, those topics requiring specific bilateral negotiations through high-level committees and subcommittees, were not discussed at length. The committees will continue discussing such topics in future scheduled meetings.

4. The sovereignty over the national territory is the exclusive concern of the Honduran State, and it is the Armed Forces' determination and constitutional obligation to see that such sovereignty is not undermined.

PNH FACTION HOLDS CONVENTION, NAMES CANDIDATE

Candidate's Address

PA010028 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Yesterday, in plain language and without any rhetorical tricks, Dr Gregorio Reyes Mazzoni promised that if he becomes the nation's president, he will implement a policy and government free of cannibalism. The physician and Nationalist politician made this promise at the National Party of Honduras [PNH] headquarters when he was proclaimed a Republic presidential candidate by party members attending a Central Committee convention. Followers of the Zuniga faction were present; however, Mario Rivera Lopez, Rafael Leonardo Callejas, and other individuals who were present at other conventions as well as members of the Authentic Nationalist Movement [Movimiento Autentico Nacionalista -- MAN] were absent.

The most important part of the speech in which Dr Reyes Mazzoni outlined his political campaign follows:

[Begin recording] We will humbly ask all Hondurans, regardless of their political ideology, to vote for us; we will ask them to vote for the ticket that will open doors to a new world, to a better world free of political cannibalism and full of understanding, tolerance, and in keeping with a democratic government system and a profound respect for human rights. [applause] In this way, we will see the phoenix emerge from our land -- a land where God will reign to encourage all Hondurans with Christian faith, hope, democracy, and happiness. Our government will show concern for all citizens by consulting the people. We will identify the problems and wishes of the Honduran people. We will carry out a profound analysis of all of our institutions.

As for our youth, we will cooperate with their teachers to focus on ways to improve teaching methods. First, we will carry out projects to benefit our mentors; second, we will carry out health programs; third, we will supply equipment to and improve sports and recreation centers, and implement various programs; fourth, we will improve school installations as well as their hygiene; fifth, we will promote the establishment of child care centers to benefit citizens requiring this service.

As for our laborers, workers, and peasants, first of all, we will maintain dialogue and permanent consultations with labor unions and the business sector to promote a favorable economic and work atmosphere for our citizens. [applause] Second, we will focus attention on the problems and needs of national agriculture. As for our elderly citizens, we will identify their needs and ways in which we can help that segment of our population to allow them to be as productive as possible during the latter part of their lives with dignity and respect. [applause]

As for women, both married and single [applause], we are planning to establish a government office, possibly at the ministerial level [applause, shouts], to study problems concerning Honduran women given that the role of women in life is more complex than that of men. In fact, occasionally it is more difficult because there are many families in which our women, who are wives, mothers, and homemakers in charge of domestic chores, are also the partial or total breadwinners.

To all citizens, we promise to strive for a judicial system, a Supreme Court of Justice, in which all Hondurans are guaranteed the rights given them by God and the laws of the Republic under equal conditions. [applause] We promise to cooperate with the Honduran people's representatives, that is Congress deputies, to create, improve, and implement laws protecting citizens' rights and the country's social and economic welfare. We promise to guarantee the stability of private and public employees and to advocate efficiency in our state institutions to better serve the public. In this regard, we will focus our efforts on the Honduran Social Security Institute, the National Enterprise for Electric Power, the National Water and Sewage Service, and the Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise. We will try to ensure that citizens are taken care of as soon as possible with efficiency, respect, and consideration to prevent any (?problems). [applause]

We will also focus on preventive medicine programs. We will achieve a significant improvement in the physical and spiritual health of our people through dialogue and consultations with our religious institutions, and with the medical, engineering, dental, and veterinarian associations in Honduras. [end recording]

That was the most substantive and important portion of Gregorio Reyes Mazzoni's speech made yesterday when he was proclaimed a Republic presidential candidate by a faction of the PNH led by Ricardo Zuniga Augustinus, a senior party leader who attended the party convention yesterday at the Central Committee headquarters of the lone star party.

Conflict Unresolved

PA010029 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The members of the PNH who held a convention to try to settle a conflict and unite their party have further widened the division within the PNH and weakened the so-called blue giant through an unsettling squabble that is unprecendented in Honduras' political history. The followers of Mario Rivera Lopez, Colonel Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, and Leonardo Callejas turned their backs on Ricardo Zuniga Augustinus and withdrew, ruining what looked like a chance to unite the party. Juan Pablo Urrutia has announced a convention and declared Gregorio Reyes Mazzonli's candidacy illegal.

BAR ASSOCIATION, MILITARY DISCUSS MISSING PERSONS

PA301659 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Communique issued by the Honduran Bar Association's [CAH] Human Rights Commission on 29 January, in Tegucigalpa, read by lawyer Mauricio Villeda Bermudez]

[Text] The CAH's Human Rights Commission announces to the Honduran people that today, at the invitation of General Walter Lopez Reyes, its members met at the Armed Forces Headquarters with the members of the military commission charged with investigating the cases of missing persons. They thoroughly reviewed this problem together in a climate of understanding in which both delegations expressed their interest in reaching the bottom of this matter in order to resolve the numerous cases of affected people and to decide the corresponding criminal responsibilities so as to help restore the Honduran people's tranquillity be respecting human rights and by strictly enforcing the law. The Armed Forces' commisson was emphatic in stating the following:

1. It was grateful for the CAH's cooperation in participating in resolving this grave problem that weighs so heavily on the Honduran people.

2. Its members have encountered huge difficulties in obtaining the necessary information to clear up the various cases, but have managed to draft a provisional report, about which both Gen Lopez Reyes and the presidency of the Republic have been informed. Due to the nature of the cases, investigative activities have been carried out without publicity in order to examine all aspects of the cases under investigation, including the whereabouts of the allegedly missing persons, but also ascribing responsibilities to the civilian and military authorities or private citizens who might turn out to be responsible for these crimes.

3. The purpose of the Armed Forces' High Command is to confront the problem in its entirety and to send those responsible before the appropriate tribunals in order to leave the good name of the Republic untarnished and strengthen the prestige of the state's institutions.

4. The investigations will not be considered completed with the report already drafted, but will continue during the preestablished 90-day period, and that, if necessary, this deadline will be extended.

For its part, the CAH's commission members stressed the importance of completely clearing up this enormous crime to the citizens' satisfaction in order to free the Honduran people from fear and worry.

The CAH commission members also said that they consider it of the utmost importance that the Armed Forces should have assumed the responsibility for investigating and making the truth emerge in connection with this problem, which undoubtedly necessitates the determined will of an institution like the Armed Forces for its total elucidation; and that the appropriate courts might act with efficacy to the extent that the military authority provided them with the pertinent evidence and offered them their cooperation in order to enforce whatever sanctions might be deemed appropriate.

The members of the respective commissions agreed to hold other meetings to bolster the cooperation established and promote the advancement of the work intended to solve this delicate and important problem.

The Armed Forces commission was comprised of Colonels Manuel Suarez Benavides, Diego Landa Celano, Guillermo Tuman Cordon, Roberto Martinez Avila, Francisco Zepeda Andino, and Humberto Regalado Hernandez. The CAH commission included the following professionals: Carlos Roberto Reina, Manuel Acosta Bonilla, (Irma Violeta Suazo de Rosa Bautista), German Edgardo Leitzelar, and Mauricio Villeda Bermudes, accompanied by CAH President Miguel Angel Rivera Portillo.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA DISCUSSES FOREIGN, ECONOMIC POLICY

Condemns U.S. 'Arrogance'

PA311910 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Nicaraguan President Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra last night said that if it should become necessary to close down all government offices and Government House in order to go and pick coffee in the mountains, this would be done. The revolutionary leader said that closing government offices would not mean suspending the country's development because the country's development is based on the efforts of workers in the field. Commander Ortega added that this is the most tense coffee harvest recorded in the history of the country because of the threats of intervention against Nicaragua made by the Reagan government.

Last night, Commander Ortega denounced new elements of tension by Washington against Nicaragua. Last night, Commander Ortega mentioned the military manuevers carried out by the U.S. Government in Honduras, the U.S. withdrawal from the Manzanillo talks, and Washington's refusal to recognize the decision of the international court of justice in The Hague, as some of the elements of tension in the Central American region and against the Nicaraguan people and revolution.

[Begin recording] On 9 January, on the anniversary of [words indistinct] the Contadora Group said it was optimistic over the efforts made by the United States and Nicaragua during their talks in Manzanillo; this was clearly mentioned by the Contadora Group in its 9 January communique. Then the United States replied. This Latin American position of recognizing the efforts being done...[rephrases] Nine meetings have been held in Manzanillo...[rephrases] What was the U.S. reply to the Contadora Group communique? The U.S. reply was its refusal to recognize the Contadora Group communique and to suspend the Manzanillo talks.

Therefore, we see that the United States has refused to recognize the decision of the international court of justice. This has place the United States completely outside the law, outside international law.

The United States just went ahead and said that it will do as it pleases in the world. That is what it is saying. It is displaying its arrogance before the world. Why? Those are the same legal organizations the United States has recognized and used on more than one occasion. Since 1946 the United States has used the international court of justice more than any other country. At the time that Nicaragua presented its case before the international court of justice and against the United States, the United States had cases against other countries pending. This only means that the United States uses the international court of justice, uses the international legal instruments, when it is in their own interest but when these same instruments are used by countries like Nicaragua, the United States refuses to recognize the organization and acts arrogantly.

Therefore, we must add the U.S. refusal to recognize international laws, its refusal to recognize the call made by the Contadora Group to support the efforts we were making in Manzanillo, and its withdrawal from the Manzanillo talks after the Contadora Group communique was issued. It has insisted, and continues to insist as President Reagan is doing, on the approval of $14 million to continue murdering Nicaraguan people. To achieve this, he uses a pretext, which is nothing more than a mockery and swindle of the American people. He wants the funds to be approved to continue to support those thousands of mercenaries and not to help the Nicaraguan people, not as a humanitarian [words indistinct]. We all know that these are lies because in the meantime, and despite the fact that those funds have been frozen, the U.S. Government has found a way of sending money to the mercenary groups. They are doing this through clandestine organizations created by the CIA in the United States, and through some Central American and other governments. The United States sends them money saying that it is for something else, but later part of this money is used to support and finance the counterrevolutionary forces.

Therefore, if we add all these facts up and include the military maneuvers what do we get? That up to this moment the United States, the U.S. Administration, is not interested in a peaceful solution; what they want is a military and forceful solution. The United States has not even rejected the possibility of a military invasion. Maybe the present political situation is not right at this moment because of the high cost that would have to be paid for an invasion of Nicaragua and because of the resistance it knows it will face from the Nicaraguan people, but still, it has not rejected the idea. It, therefore, continues with its maneuvers. As we already said, these maneuvers are clearly intended to practice what could be an action of intervention against Nicaragua. The excuse can always be that Nicaragua attacked Honduras or that Nicaragua attacked Costa Rica or El Salvador. It will find any pretext when it feels the situation is ripe to launch itself against Nicaragua. [end recording]

Hopes for Better FRG Ties

LD311858 Hamburg DPA in German 1715 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Bonn, 31 Jan (DPA) -- Following the visit to Managua by Juergen Moellemann, minister of state in the Foreign Ministry, the Sandinist government of Nicaragua is hoping for an improvement in its relations with Helmut Kohl's government. Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said this in an interview with the Social Democratic Party weekly VORWAERTS. "It was important for us to learn officially from the Federal Government that it does not support the policy of aggression toward Nicaragua. Until now we did not know this," Ortega said.

After the failure of its talks with Nicaragua, the United States no longer even formally gives the impression that it is interested in further talks, the president continued.

"We can only retain our readiness to negotiate," he said. "We believe that public opinion in the United States, in Congress, and international public opinion could persuade the Reagan government to make a change."

Ortega believes it is possible that the United States is still considering intervention in Nicaragua: "The United States cannot exclude this possibility until it decides to negotiate with Nicaragua, until it is ready to accept the Nicaraguan revolution." In Ortega's view, the offer made by Pope John Paul II to mediate in Central America cannot replace the peace initiative of the Contadora Group, which consists of Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela, but could support its effots.

Explains 1985 Economic Plan

PA312212 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Defense and production are priority tasks in the 1985 economic plan, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, companero president of the Republic, said yesterday during a meeting with producers in La Dalia sector, Matagalpa Department.

[Begin recording] In analyzing the 1985 economic plan, we arrived at the following conclusions: The country is facing a difficult situation, and we have very few resources. We are short of foreign exchange, and have very few resources in general. The demands largely surpass our resources. What must we do then in order to distribute these resources correctly? First of all, we must guarantee resources such as food, clothing, medicine, boots, and transportation for our fighters. This comes first. Secondly, we must guarantee foreign exchange, transportation, and all that is required for production. What type of production? In the first place, the production in the agriculture and livestock sector, in other words, the production of basic grains, coffee, cattle. We must first guarantee foreign exchange for this sector, so it can produce the export products that will in turn bring more foreign exchange to the country, and so that it can produce the food that the Nicaraguan people so badly need. Then, we must guarantee foreign exchange and resources for the industrial sector.

We must guarantee the necessary support resources so that the country can defend itself militarily and continue producing at the same time. In other words, we must guarantee resources for the transport sector to support defense and production. We must also guarantee resources for the gasoline, diesel, fuel, energy supplies that the country so badly needs, both for defense and for production.

After giving priority to these sectors, we must then guarantee health services for our people, followed by education for our people. This is more or less the order in which we have distributed the few resources we have.

However, there is one more aspect. We already know that we are short of products. This makes the price of these products go up every day. They are more expensive every day, and there is much speculation. So we have an objective that we hope to accomplish this year. We want the farmers' salaries to be the best salaries in this country, and this also goes for industrial workers. Those workers who are not productive will have to be sent to places where they will produce. The country is experiencing a tragedy. The same thing is happening in many countries in the world, where farmers are going to the cities to earn more money and live under better conditions because the cities have electricity, water, hospitals, schools, and they do not have these things in the countryside.

Furthermore, what have we told the ministers? Companeros, you will not carry out new service projects in the cities. If we need schools let us construct them in the productive zones in the countryside. If new health centers have to be constructed, let us also construct them in the productive zones in the countryside. If it becomes possible to provide more energy, then instead of lighting up the suburbs of Managua, or Leon, or Matagalpa, let us light up the productive centers in the countryside, the cooperatives, and the production units. We will take all of these resources to the countryside. We have to explain this to the companeros in the cities, who must not be annoyed, who must understand that our resources are limited, that resources cannot be distributed equally in all areas, that we have to pay greater attention to certain sectors, and that because of this we have to move these resources to the countryside. [end recording]

U.S. 'ATTEMPTS' TO LINK GOVERNMENT TO DRUGS

PA311726 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry in Managua on 31 January]

[Text] In response to various press reports concerning the arrest of Colombian citizens Jorge Luis Ochoa Vasquez and Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela in Spain on charges of drug trafficking, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reports:

Since 1981 the U.S. Government has been attempting to link the Nicaraguan Government to drug trafficking as part of its campaign to discredit the Nicaraguan revolution and its authorities. In 1984 such false implications were brought up in a trial in a south Florida district court, where the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency attempted to link the Nicaraguan Government to illegal drug trafficking activities.

After Colombian Ochoa Vasquez and Rodriguez Orejuela were captured in Spain, the U.S. Government requested that they be extradited. The defendants told Spanish newspapers that during their detention it was proposed to them that if they would link the Nicaraguan Government to drug trafficking, no action would be taken on the extradition request presented by the United States.

In view of this and the increases in the U.S. Government's propaganda ploys to discredit the image of the Nicaraguan Government so as to boost its illegal policy of aggression against the Nicaraguan people and particularly its efforts to obtain the approval of more funds for counterrevolutionary bands by the U.S. Congress, the Nicaraguan Government hereby reiterates that it rejects outright this defamatory and slanderous campaign. It also wishes to reaffirm its firm support for the Quito Declaration on drug trafficking issued on 10 August 1984 by the Governments of Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Panama, and Nicaragua, particularly the statement which declares drug trafficking a crime against humanity. Nicaragua also reaffirms its full willingness to endorse the draft convention against trafficking of narcotic and mind-altering substances and illegal activities that was proposed by Venezuela and endorsed by Nicaragua in a note dated 16 October 1984 which was sent to the foreign minister of that sister nation.

MSGR VEGA HALTS PLANS TO TRAVEL TO CUBA

PA010413 Paris AFP in Spanish 0317 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Managua, 31 Jan (AFP) -- The president of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference, Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, called a halt to plans to travel to Cuba after being warned by the other bishops about the "negative" consequences it could have, according to the opposition paper LA PRENSA.

Quoting "religious sources who asked not to be identified," LA PRENSA indicated that Vega received that response after holding "personal consultations" on the matter.

Vega said recently that he was willing to accept an invitation to visit Cuba which was extended by the Cuban President Fidel Castro when he attended the inauguration of President Daniel Ortega in Managua. However, he said that before deciding on the trip, he would have to consult with the other bishops who are members of the conference.

Vega once described Castro as a man of great "sagacity" and justified his decision to visit Cuba, "because it is necessary to build understanding between our peoples."

The bishop is currently visiting Venezuela to participate in a meeting between the church and workers organizations.

RELEASE OF RADIO IMPACTO CORRESPONDENT ORDERED

PA010022 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Yesterday, Nicaraguan Justice Minister Dr Ernesto Castillo ordered the release of Dr Salomon Calvo Arrieta, our correspondent in Managua, who has spent 31 days in prison as a result of an unfair sentence.

COMBINED MISURA-MISURASATA FORCES ATTACK VILLAGES

PA302202 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Combined forces of the Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas [Misura], and the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata]counterrevolutionary organizations have attacked Indian communities in the Atlantic region, Deputy Interior Minister Commander Luis Carrion Cruz reported yesterday. Last week both organizations attacked Puerto Cabezas with mortars. As a result, several civilians were killed or wounded and an ambulance was destroyed. Commander Carrion Cruz reported that as part of the pressures against the dialogue process, Misura is particularly interested in intensifying armed clashes in the region. Meanwhile, combined troops of the Sandinist People's Militia and the Battalions for Unconventional Warfare, BLI, inflicted 80 dead and 38 wounded on counterrevolutionary forces of the so-called Nicarao Regional Commando in Las Segovias from 17 to 26 January.

This announcement was made by Commander Manuel Salvatierra, chief of the military zone in Las Segovias while evaluating the situation in that sector. BLI units of the Francisco Estrada, Santos Lopez, Juan Pablo Umanzor, German Pomares, and Miguel Angel Ortez groups participated in the operation. Salvatierra noted that the fighters showed great adaptability in confronting the unconventional methods used by the counter-revolutionary groups. The operation, which has been called "Cristobal Vanegas," has produced clashes in (El Joche) and Los Cedros, during which 27 contras were killed and 4 captured. There were also clashes in El Balsamo, which resulted in 12 enemy killed, including counterrevolutionary leader El Chaparral, according to peasants in the area.

BROOKLYN RIVERA OPPOSES U.S. AID TO CONTRAS

PA301723 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Brooklyn Rivera has said in Washington that he does not agree with U.S. aid to the contras,and noted that this aid serves to produce personal benefits.

At a press conference in the U.S. Senate, Rivera, leader of the Misurasata, said that he does not agree with U.S. aid to the counterrevolutionaries. He said that this aid has not been used positively but to satisfy the personal ambitions of counterrevolutionary leaders and to hurt the Nicaraguan people. Rivera urged the U.S. Government to support the peace negotiations taking place between the Indians and the revolutionary government. He said that during his visit in the United States he has not met with any U.S. Government official. So far he has only met with Senator Edward Kennedy, who served as intermediary between Rivera and the Managua government at the beginning of the talks.

ARDE ISSUES URGENT APPEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL AID

PAG10131 Paris AFP in Spanish 2115 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] San Jose, 31 Jan (AFP) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, today issued "an urgent appeal to the international community, to offer its solidarity and material support to the 7,000 fighters," who are led by Eden Pastora, in southern and southeastern Nicaragua.

Adolfo Chamorro, Pastora's personal assistant, asserted that barely a third of ARDE's fighters are in their combat positions, "because the rest of the troops have no food or weapons." Chamorro pointed out that if the organization does not receive the necessary funds to feed its fighters within the next 60 days, "we will have to abandon our positions and leave more than 20,000 Nicaraguans defenseless against the Sandinist repression."

The opposition leader warned that this situation might lead to grave immigration problems for Costa Rica, "because if we withdraw, the people in southern Nicaragua will immigrate" to that nation.

In addition, Yolanda de Pastora, wife of "Commander Cero" [Eden Pastora] added her anguished call to request "the help of all the democracies for the thousands of Nicaraguans who fight barefoot and ill-clothed against international communism." "As a sister, wife, and mother of fighters, I request the solidarity of all the nations so that our fighters do not starve to death," Pastora's wife said.

The ARDE leaders have announced that, as of today, they will start a solidarity drive in Costa Rica, "and we will go from house to house, person to person, to request the rice, salt, medicine, clothes, and so on, that our guerrilla fighters need."

Christian Democratic leader Jose Davila, a member of ARDE's political directorate, said that the campaign is aimed at "opening channels of solidarity from people to people." Davila said that this new strategy; carried out by ARDE last month in the United States, particularly among the Cuban community in Miami, is necessary "due to the timidness of democratic governments which have not dared to give us their solidarity."

"We appeal directly to the people, because the governments have been frightened by Cuba's threats that it will inflict communism on any country which gives its solidarity to our struggle," Davila stressed.

BRIEFS

ARRIVAL OF SOVIET RICE -- Two Soviet ships carrying 300,000 bags of rice have arrived at the port of Corinto. The staple was acquired through a line of credit granted by the USSR to the Nicaraguan revolutionary government. [Text] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 30 Jan 85 PA]

RADIO ANNOUNCES MALMIERCA TRIP TO SOVIET UNION

FL311326 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Cuba's Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca will make an official visit to the Soviet Union in the first half of February. Malmierca will be fulfilling an invitation by the Soviet Government. The forthcoming visit coincides with the 25th anniversary of reestablishing diplomatic relations between the two countries.

BRAZILIAN RECEPTION HONORS RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART

FL311826 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Leading parliamentarians of Rio de Janeiro have held a reception for Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and the Cuban delegation which attended the OLADE ministerial committee meeting.

A delegation of parliamentarians from the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party headed by party President (Uforge Gama), also attended the reception.

'BIG PINE' EXERCISES SHOW HONDURAN REGIME'S 'FEAR'

PA312344 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 30 Jan 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Pentagon is preparing to conduct new, aggressive military maneuvers on Honduran territory. This time they are the "Big Pine III" games, which will be held in that Central American country from 11 February to 14 April with the participation of 4,500 U.S. soldiers and approximately 6,000 Hondurans. This will be the fourth time that forces from both Armies have held maneuvers of the "Big Pine" type in the last 2 years.

The first of these war games was held in February 1983 for 8 days. The second lasted from August that year until February 1984. Also in 1984, U.S. and Honduran troops carried out the "Grenadier I" exercises. These have not been the only joint U.S.-Honduran military exercises held in Honduras in the last 24 months; close to 10 maneuvers of a lesser scale have been held almost without interruption.

The United States has also deployed its war Navy in the Caribbean and Pacific waters of Central America for menacing war games aimed at intimidating Nicaragua's Sandinist revolution and the revolutionary movement in El Salvador.

[Words indistinct] the objectives pursued by Washington through the "Big Pine" exercises, the third phase of which will begin 11 February. However, in the language of the White House, these objectives are masked behind the designation of combat preparedness exercises. Pentagon spokesmen have said that the objective of the "Big Pine III" exercises is to build up the capability of the Honduran Army in view of possible [word indistinct] attacks.

The company of U.S. engineers that will participate in these war demonstrations will improve the runways and hangars of the U.S. military bases in Cucuyagua located not far from the border with El Salvador, and those in San Lorenzo, near the Nicaraguan border.

The exercises will include training in the use of antitank equipment near San Lorenzo, and training in antiguerrilla warfare in the Honduran Department of Yoro. In this regard, the Pentagon disclosed that an undetermined number of tanks and armored vehicles will be taken to Honduras for use during the exercises.

The announcement of the date of the "Big Pine III" exercises coincided with that of the resumption of U.S.-Honduran talks on new military and economic treaties to replace those signed by the two governments in 1954. Sources linked to the Tegucigalpa regime said that the Honduran authorities plan to ask the United States for assistance amounting to some $3 billion. In exchange for this, they would be willing to allow the Pentagon to install on Honduran territory a permanent air and naval base and the School of Americas, which was withdrawn from Panama and which is provisionally located in the U.S. State of Georgia.

The sources noted that the Honduran regime is seeking a commitment from the United States to defend Honduras in the event of an alleged foreign aggression or a revolutionary movement that the national Army cannot control. Obviously, the Honduran authorities fear a resurgence of the guerrilla movement in their country. This fear has led them to virtually turn over their national territory to foreign capital and to turn Honduras into a large U.S. military base.

In sum, the Honduran Government leaders are justly afraid of the masses. They are afraid of their people. This is the reason for the frequent military exercises in Honduras and the growing rearmament of the Honduran Army.

WORK SAFETY DIRECTOR REPORTS ON 1984 DEATHS

FL301950 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] There were more than 50 deaths in the construction sector in 1984 due to work-related accidents, 6 more than in the same period last year, reported Orestes Gonzalez, work safety director of the Ministry of Construction. Of this number, 2 deaths were traffic related accidents, and the other 39 [as heard] incidents took place at projects and workshops due to dangerous production factors and unsafe activities by workers, or both of these factors. There were various types of accidents, among them electrical shocks and falls from various heights.

CAMACHO AGUILERA CLOSES HAVANA MEETING ON ECONOMY

FL311910 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Julio Camacho Aguilera, Politburo member and first party secretary in Havana, has called on the province workers to be placed at the vanguard of the people's economic war on completing the fourth plenary analysis on the implementation of the directed and planned economy. A meeting attended by Camacho Aguilera ended the area's analysis on work performance, at which suggestions, worries, and experiences from over the years on the directed economy in the approximately 1,000 budgeted enterprises and units in Havana City were discussed.

INVESTMENT PLANNED FOR MINING SECTOR PROJECTS

FL311526 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Important investments will be completed this year at various mines in order to increase exports and complete production plans while conserving energy resources.

It was reported that as part of this effort these projects will be completed: the first line of acids at the Patricio Lumumba sulfur-metal plant, the installation of the Micropulverizer at the Coco Peredo mine, the Frank Pais salt plant, the Remedios zeolite plant, the Havana limestone plant, installations at the chromium mines in Mercerita, and the Margarita mine and plant in Cambute.

The Union of Mining and Salt Enterprises has planned to complete production of 35,000 tons of salt for export this year and reported that 22,000 tons of sulfuric acid must be exported, among other products.

MINISTER FORECASTS 1985 STEELWORK PRODUCTION

FL181130 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The Ministry of the Steelworking Industry will produce 776 million pesos this year, and production will grow by 11 percent compared with that of 1984, when production was 700 million.

Steelworking Industry Minister Marcos Lage reported this to the newspapers, and added that large quantities of agricultural machines would be produced and industrial plants would be built.

Lage said the ministry hoped to produce 400,000 tons of steel this year. The complete success of the ministry's plan for this year will depend on its ability to execute the plan with the energy and fuel it has been allocated.

R. CASTRO PRAISES PALMA SORIANO'S DEFENSE WORK

FL251230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, party second secretary and first vice president of the Council of State and of the government, has sent a letter of congratulation to the people of Palma Soriano for their excellent achievements in preparing that territory for defense.

The FAR minister's message appears in a report on the subject which was published today by GRANMA. Raul points out in his letter that the achievements of the people of Palma Soriano are worthy of imitation by the other municipalities and provinces in the country.

The document points out that with their great effort, the people of Palma Soriano have also shown that every Cuban will have a means, location, and way to participate in the people's war.

66 PERCENT OF PEASANT LAND UNDER COOPERATIVES

FL281740 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Sixty-six percent of the country's peasant land is under the agricultural production cooperative system, not counting those cooperatives incorporated under state enterprises.

A report on this matter was presented by Jose Ramirez Cruz, alternate Politburo member and president of the National Association of Small Farmers, on inaugurating a pioneer campsite at an agricultural cooperative in Cienfuegos Province.

BAHAMAS

RELATIONS WITH HAITI TO BE STRENGTHENED

FL312346 Bridgetown CANA in English 2142 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Jan 31, CANA -- The Bahamas and Haiti are to sign a new agreemetn in three months' time aimed at strengthening bilateral relations in a number of areas, it has been officially announced here. The announcement followed two days of talks between the Haitian foreign minister, Jean-Robert Estime, and his Bahamian counterpart, Clement Maynard.

A four-page joint communique issued after the talks said both sides agreed to recommend to their governments measures to eliminate problems created by the presence of illegal immigrants in their respective territories and mechanisms for the repatriation and regularisation of the status of their nationals, as the case may be. The communique said that delegations exchanged views on the current world economic situation in general and the Caribbean region in particular and have underlined the need for international solidarity in addressing world and regional economic problems.

Views were also exchanged on bilateral issues, including the need to promote and develop commercial, education, cultural, economic, scientific, and tourist relations.

Both delegations reaffirmed the desire of their governments to strengthen ties between the two countries and to promote better understanding among their peoples, and to this end have recognised the need for a new agreement as an important instrument for the maintenance of peace, good relations, justice, and progress between their countries.

DRUG TRAFFICKING INQUIRY COST $2 MILLION

FL010018 Bridgetown CANA in English 2230 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Jan 31, CANA -- The Commission of Inquiry into drug trafficking in the Bahamas cost the government more than two million U.S. dollars, according to Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling. Pindling said the revelations of the commission, which linked some of his political colleagues and friends with drug peddling, was his his major disappointment of 1984. After eight months of hearings, the commission found that although Pindling had lived beyond his means on funds supplied by foreign businessmen, there was insufficient evidence to prove the money was drug-related. The report is due to be debated in Parliament next month.

JAMAICA

SEAGA SEEKS TO COUNTER PRESS REPORTS ON UNREST

FL312136 Bridgetown CANA in English 2119 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 31, CANA -- Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga has gone on a swing through the United States to head-off mounting visitor cancellations brought on by what was felt here to be sensational and over-blown reporting of this month's sometimes violent petrol price demonstrations here. The official JAMPRESS news agency said Seaga, who left here last night, will have discussions and interviews with a number of newspapers and magazines, including THE WALL STREET JOURNAL and THE WASHINGTON POST.

Angry Jamaicans, protesting a 21-per cent increase in the price of gasoline and varying hikes for other petroleum products, blocked roads and burned bonfires in the streets on January 15 and 16. At least five persons died in a few skirmishes between police and demonstrators and between supporters and opponents of the action.

But government officials say the foreign media in sensational reports claimed large-scale rioting in Jamaica and did not specify that the bulk of the unrest was in Kingston and not heavily concentrated on the north coast tourist areas. On Sunday, Seaga told ruling party officials that up to then there had been 15,000 room-night cancellations.

The Tourist Board has already launched a campaign to repair the damage and bring hundreds of travel agents and tour operators to the island, hoping to convince them that all is well. New slogans and heavy advertising are also being released on important tourist markets. Official figures are not available for the loss to the industry, but Sunday THE GLEANER newspaper quoted north coast hotel operator Hugh Maitland-Walker as saying the figure could reach between U.S. 80 to U.S. 100 million dollars (J408.8 to J511 million dollars at the present exchange rate). Matiland-Walker said arrivals were down 20 per cent islandwide. We will never forgive the U.S. press for this, he was quoted as saying.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

NDP, SVLP WILL CONTEST CATO'S FORMER SEAT

FL302046 Bridgetown CANA in English 2230 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, Jan 29, CANA -- The February 14 by-election in the East St. George Constituency here will be a two-way fight between the ruling New Democratic Party's (NDP) Louis Jones, a customs broker, and Donald Browne, a lawyer who will be contesting for the opposition St Vincent Labour Party (SVLP). Jones and Browne were the only candidates nominated today for next month's poll resulting from the resignation from Parliament on January 7 of former Prime Minister Milton Cato, who had been parliamentary representative for the area since 1961. Jones lost to Cato in last July's general election by 398 votes.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MINISTER SAYS GROUPS PLAN TO DESTROY DEMOCRACY

FL312334 Bridgetown CANA in English 2327 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan 31, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago's national security minister, John Donaldson, has been quoted in the local press as saying there are groups here actively planning how to destroy democracy as we know it. THE EXPRESS newspaper said the minister's comment came as he officially opened new wings at Defence Force Headquarters in West Trinidad on Tuesday. He said he could call names but this would not be in the national interest. He hoped that good sense would prevail.

Donaldson expressed concern about Trinidad and Tobago at this time because there are many groups spending much time planning action which is not in the nation's interest, THE EXPRESS said. I say this publicly so that those involved would think again and perhaps have a change of plan, Donaldson was quoted as saying. Pressed to be more specific, Donaldson said people involved in all walks of life, both internally and externally, were involved in the training of people and the participation in illegal activities in this country. A look at what some of their supporters have brought about in some countries in our area should alert us to them (and) the possibility of failure and the problems that flow from such failure, the daily quoted the minister as saying.

CARICOM FOOD, PRODUCE IMPORTS EXEMPT FROM DUTY

FL301838 Bridgetown CANA in English 1733 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 29, CANA -- The Trinidad and Tobago Government has exempted food and agricultural produce imported from Caribbean Community (Caricom) member states from a 12-per cent stamp duty introduced in the 1985 budget. Prime Minister George Chambers told Parliament yesterday the tax would be waived for imports of Caricom-grown fruit and ground provisions such as yams and sweet potatoes. The tax, criticised by the local business community, is applicable to all bills of entry, excluding food and drugs. A list of exempt items, tabled in the House of Representatives by Chambers, also included crude petroleum and petroleum feed stocks processed at local refineries.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

24-HOUR STRIKE HELD; BOSCH CALLS ON JORGE TO RESIGN

FL311312 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, security forces occupied low-income neighborhoods in that country's second largest city of Santiago after small businesses shut down in a 24-hour strike protesting recent price increases. News reports said several people were arrested in Santiago, including a lawyer who allegedly tried to burn down a government-subsidized food store.

Meantime, in the capital of Santo Domingo, calm prevailed 2 days after police arrested hundreds of demonstrators burning tires in low-income neighborhoods, and business was paralyzed by commercial strike. The demonstrations came in the wake of austerity measures announced last week that boosted the cost of gasoline 34 percent and increased prices of basic foodstuffs between 20 and 60 percent.

In a related development, former President Juan Bosch charged yesterday that President Salvador Jorge Blanco is incapable of handling the nation's economic crisis and called for his resignation.

And, the Armed Forces issued a statement calling Dominicans to ignore what it described as Marxist promptings that seek to undermine the bases of respect to the popular will. The statement which was signed by the heads of all branches of the Armed Forces voiced support for President Jorge Blanco's economic policies.

PERU

STRIKING MINEWORKERS DEMAND SALARY INCREASES

PY291235 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0436 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Lima, 28 Jan (EFE) -- It has been reported in Lima that some 400 workers of the state-owned Peruvian State Mining Enterprise (Mineroperu) today took over Mineroperu headquarters, which is located in the Magdalena District in Lima, beginning a strike and asking for salary increases.

Meanwhile, 85 mineworkers of the Maichaimylloc Company in Arequipa, a department located in southern Peru, some 1,000 km from Lima, who arrived in Lima 20 months ago on a hardship march, have started a hunger strike, along with their spouses and children, reasserting their demands for salary increases.

The Mineroperu workers, who work at the Cajamarquilla zinc refinery, which is located in the outskirts of Lima, rallied at Mineroperu headquarters. A total of 200 workers have started a hunger strike. A Mineroperu communique stated that the workers left the headquarters 6 hours after they had occupied it.